

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to alter one or more plant characteristics, said method comprising ~~modifying, in a plant, expression of one or more~~ introducing and expressing in a plant a nucleic acid[[s]] which is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:1835, and/or modifying level and/or activity of ~~one or more a~~ protein[[s]]encoded by said nucleic acid, which nucleic acids and/or proteins are essentially similar to any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 2755, and wherein said one or more plant characteristics are altered relative to corresponding wild type plants.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said altered plant characteristic is selected from any one or more of the following: altered development, altered growth, increased yield and/or biomass, enhanced survival capacity, enhanced stress tolerance, altered plant architecture, altered plant physiology, altered plant biochemistry, altered metabolism, altered DNA synthesis, altered DNA modification, altered endoreduplication, altered cell cycle, altered cell wall biogenesis, altered transcription regulation, altered signal transduction, altered storage lipid mobilization and/or altered photosynthesis, each relative to corresponding wild type plants.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said altered metabolism comprises altered nitrogen and/or altered carbon metabolism.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said increased yield and/or biomass, comprises increased seed yield.

Claims 5-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising overexpression of said nucleic acid ~~of one or more nucleic acids essentially similar to any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 2755.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising downregulation of expression of said nucleic acid ~~one or more nucleic acids essentially similar to any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 2755.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A transgenic plant having one or more altered characteristics when compared to the corresponding wild-type plant, characterized in that said plant has modified expression of a one or more nucleic acid[s] which is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:1835, and/or modified level and/or activity of a one or more protein[s] encoded by said nucleic acid, said nucleic acid and/or protein being ~~essentially similar to any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 2755.~~

13. (Previously Presented) A transgenic plant obtainable by a method according to claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) A transgenic plant comprising an isolated nucleic acid and/or protein sequence which is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:1835, ~~essentially similar to any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 2755.~~

15. (Previously Presented) An ancestor, progeny, or any plant part, particularly a harvestable part, of a transgenic plant of claim 12.

16. (Currently Amended) A host cell having one or more altered characteristics when compared to the corresponding wild-type host cell, characterized in that said host cell has modified expression of ~~one or more~~ a nucleic acid[[s]] which is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:1835, and/or modified level and/or activity of ~~one or more~~ a protein[[s]] encoded by said nucleic acid, ~~said nucleic acid and/or protein being essentially similar to any one of SEQ ID NO 1 to 2755.~~

Claim 17. (Canceled)

Claims 18-39. (Canceled)

40. (new) A method to alter one or more plant characteristics, said method comprising introducing and expressing in a plant a nucleic acid which is at least 95% identical to a sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:1836, and/or modifying level and/or activity of a protein encoded by said nucleic acid, and wherein said one or more plant characteristics are altered relative to corresponding wild type plants.

41. (new) A method according to claim 40, wherein said altered plant characteristic is selected from any one or more of the following: altered development, altered growth, increased yield and/or biomass, enhanced survival capacity, enhanced stress tolerance, altered plant architecture, altered plant physiology, altered plant biochemistry, altered metabolism, altered DNA synthesis, altered DNA modification,

altered endoreduplication, altered cell cycle, altered cell wall biogenesis, altered transcription regulation, altered signal transduction, altered storage lipid mobilization and/or altered photosynthesis, each relative to corresponding wild type plants.

42. (new) A method according to claim 41, wherein said altered metabolism comprises altered nitrogen and/or altered carbon metabolism.

43. (new) A method according to claim 41, wherein said increased yield and/or biomass, comprises increased seed yield.

44. (new) A method according to claim 40, comprising overexpression of said nucleic acid.

45. (new) A method according to claim 40, comprising downregulation of expression of said nucleic acid.

46. (new) A transgenic plant having one or more altered characteristics when compared to the corresponding wild-type plant, characterized in that said plant has modified expression of a nucleic acid which is at least 95% identical to a sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:1836, and/or modified level and/or activity of a protein encoded by said nucleic acid.

47. (new) A transgenic plant obtainable by a method according to claim 40.

48. (new) A transgenic plant comprising an isolated nucleic acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to a sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:1836.

49. (new) An ancestor, progeny, or any plant part, particularly a harvestable part, of a transgenic plant of claim 46.

50. (new) A host cell having one or more altered characteristics when compared to the corresponding wild-type host cell, characterized in that said host cell has modified expression of a nucleic acid which is at least 95% identical to a sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:1836, and/or modified level and/or activity of a protein encoded by said nucleic acid.